

Restoration Coordination



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

(916) 657-2666
FAX **(916) 654-9780**

Date: September 17, 1997
To: CALFED Policy Group
From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Subject: Restoration Coordination Update

Summary

We have received 332 formal Category III proposals totaling \$471 million in requested funding. The evaluation and selection process has begun. We anticipate sending a recommended funding package to the Policy Group in late October for a final decision at the November Policy Group meeting. Comments and recommendations provided by the Ecosystem Roundtable and BDAC will accompany the funding package.

The Category III and CVPIA programs have increased coordination. The Integration Panel, considering the unique mandates of each program, will review both the Category III proposals and selected CVPIA annual work plans to ensure consistency of priorities and coordination of funding.

Action Item

This memo is provided for information only.

Detailed Discussion

Summary of Category III Proposals Received. CALFED staff have developed an updated summary of the Category III proposals received which is attached. A total of 332 formal proposals requesting funding were submitted totaling \$471 million. The attached summary describes the distribution of proposals by type of applicant, project type, dollars requested, watershed, habitats, species and stressors. Many proposals address multiple species, stressors, habitats, and even watersheds. Therefore, for those four categories we did not identify a primary single attribute. Consequently, the totals for these four categories exceed the actual dollars requested and proposals submitted.

CALFED Agencies

California The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

RFP Evaluation and Selection Process. As described at the August meeting, a two-tiered process has been adopted to score and select proposals -- technical review panels are meeting to evaluate and score the proposals and an integration panel will be used to identify priorities and select the proposals. Thirteen technical review panels have been formed and are meeting to evaluate and score the 332 proposals. The integration panel (panel names attached) has met to identify guiding principles and priorities for proposal selection (priorities and principles attached). The integration panel has identified priorities for species and project type and will identify priorities for habitats and stressors at their next meeting in September.

Schedule for Funding Decisions. The technical review panels and integration panel are expected to complete their work in mid-October. The recommended funding package will be provided to the Ecosystem Roundtable for review and comment at their October 28th meeting and to BDAC for review and comment at their November 4th meeting. The integration panel recommendations and the comments from the Roundtable and BDAC will be provided to the Policy Group for a recommended decision at their November 29th meeting and then forwarded to Secretary Wheeler for a final decision on the Proposition 204 funds.

Restoration Coordination. Progress has been made to increase coordination between the Category III and CVPIA programs. The integration panel will review both the Category III proposals and on selected CVPIA annual work plans for FY 98. Considering the unique mandates of each program, the integration panel will review both programs using a common set of priorities for those species which are common to both programs. In addition, CALFED staff are meeting with CVPIA and other closely related funding programs to increase coordination regarding project implementation.

Next Funding Cycle. Discussion has begun regarding methods of allocating the federal funds anticipated in FY 98 for ecosystem restoration. The following three options, which are not mutually exclusive, are being considered:

- ***New Grant Requests.*** A new grant request administered by CALFED or National Fish and Wildlife Foundation,
- ***Existing RFP Proposals.*** Use existing proposals submitted in the 1997 Category III RFP that are high priority but not funded due to limited funding,
- ***Directed Programs.*** Provide funding through directed programs to address gaps/voids not funded in the current RFP process or which are determined to be more appropriately funded through directed programs rather than an RFP process.